

REMARKS

The above-identified application has been reviewed in light of the office action mailed July 7, 2003. By the present amendment, claims 1 and 9 have been amended. Claim 8 has been canceled. It is respectfully submitted that no new matter has been added.

In the Office Action, claims 3-6 and 9 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112. Independent claim 1 has been amended to provide antecedent basis for “the fastener driving head” of claims 3-6. Claim 9 has been amended to depend from claim 6 to provide antecedent basis for “the fastener carrying slider”. Withdrawal of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112 is respectfully requested.

In the Office Action, claims 1-10 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) over PG-PUB 2003/0023248 to Parodi. Independent claim 1 has been amended to include the limitation of “a storage chamber extending from a distal end of the expandable portion” which was a recitation in claim 8, now canceled. It is respectfully submitted that this is neither shown nor disclosed in the Parodi publication. With regard to the rejection of claim 8, the Examiner points to paragraph 93. However, paragraph 93 merely discusses a “distal drive 280” without regard to its position relative to the expandable portion. Further, the “distal drive 280” is not a storage chamber or a storage chamber extending from a distal end of an expandable portion. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that all the claims presently pending in this application, namely claims 1-7 and 9-10 are in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration of the claims is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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